Rice team wins like contest

By Jacklyn Youngblood

Before the Owls reigned victorious in the Texas Bowl, a different group was in victory mode over 2020 participants to claim first place in Houston’s Recycle the Campus. A group of Rice faculty and staff members led by Weiss College senior Jeremy Caves and Earth Science Professor Carrie Masiello said, “You can burn it, which is to combust it in the presence of oxygen, or you can pyrolyze it, which is to decompose it into gas or liquid products under anaerobic conditions.”

“Biochar is capable of generating unquantifiable amounts of electricity by capturing methane and other greenhouse gases, left by Hurricane Ike Contest. A group of Rice faculty and staff members led by Wiess College Professor Carrie Masiello said. “You can burn it, which is to combusted in the presence of oxygen, or you can pyrolyze it, which is to decompose it into gas or liquid products under anaerobic conditions.”

City of Houston officials want to extend the Woody debris left behind after Hurricane Ike. A process that can cost $500 per ton, Caves said. The competition sought to increase interest in sustainability and provide solutions to take care of the debris left by Hurricane Ike.

"This is always a need-blind institution and it’s part of who we are," he said. "We are constantly reevaluating our financial aid policies to make sure that Rice remains affordable and accessible to all." Student Financial Services helped the student-loan-freeze of early last year, which prohibited many students from taking out loans from private lenders, as indicators that Rice’s policies would require modification, although the timing of the changes is partially due to recent downturns in the economy. The changes will take effect next semester, beginning with the 2020 incoming freshman class, and will only apply to undergraduate students, Director of Student Financial Services Anne Walker said.

"If the goal is to help current Rice students during economically hard times, not for families struggling to fund four years of tuition, the new policy will experience a reduction in the number of families who qualify for financial aid, Walker said. But at the same time, the population increase will bring in more revenue from tuition. We’ve done long-range planning to ensure we are covering the increase in population.

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Rice needs help during financial plight

There's nothing easy, nothing fortunate and nothing guaranteed about the current recession. Nobody is unaffected, and nobody without responsibility. So when President David Leebron announced a hiring freeze (see story, page 1), we should not look at the plan as a surprise; rather, we should look at this stoppage as a necessary measure for Rice’s fiscal survival during the greatest economic downturn since the Great Depression. This freeze, the cessation of expansion, puts the campus’s status as an elite institution at risk. On average, Rice hires 38 people per month, many of those heading into Housing and Dining and Facilities Planning and Engineering to accelerate the university’s recent growth. Now, you may not find yourself personally affected by the Big Chill, but that doesn’t mean that the student body shouldn't chip in to carry us through the mire and muck of these times. Because many service resources will be stretched to the max, a greater burden of maintaining Rice's reputation and good order will fall on the student body’s shoulders. It means that students should be aware of the ramifications of their actions. When a night at Willy’s Pub turns into a night of debacles, try to rein the destruction in a bit. Be aware of your surroundings, and keep the mayhem to a minimum.

Green does a world good

This week, Wiess College senior Jeremy Caves showed off his scientific literacy and in an magnificent showing with the rest of his research team, he won Houston’s Recycle Ike contest by suggesting this truly is, we do know that by turning Ike’s debris into buried carbon, Caves and his crew have taken one more step toward providing a good environment for all of Rice’s generations. Impressive, yes, but we want to note that in the end, Caves was merely a student – albeit a highly motivated and successful one – who turned his education into a cause. Caves should be an inspiration to not only his fellow engineers, but to all of us who wither away with problem sets and lengthy reading assignments while the world outside has problems in need of solving. This particular time and place is perfect for students to propel their talents into the field in the name of progress. And since not every achievement has to be of monumental consequence, we encourage the student body to think on the small scale; small achievements often combine to change the world. Use college resources, connect with fellow students, and throw yourself into the myriad environmental programs around campus. With any luck, we can make stories like Caves’ the rule, and not the exception.
Broken U.S.-Bolivia relations require fix

IN THE MOVIE

Sports not only for athletically inclined

Education Supplement) is the 57th

Broken with the underlying argument that Decimate the country and plunge its

New year an excellent time for lastpush improvements

Patric McAnaney

Bush’s decision to politicalize

INFRACTION

Amanda Melchor

BOLIVIA essentially targeted the poorest of the poor.

What happened to “compassionate conservatism?”

FORUM

McAnaney is a Brown College

Rice won a bowl game last week.

Let us ring in the New Year not with church bells or
saintly resolutions but with body slams and
tide tackles.

Timothy Faust

But what are sports without play-

A new semester also allows stu-

and repetitive but very relevant

We’ve resigned ourselves to eternal

Amanda Melchor is a Rice senior and opinion editor. Timothy Faust is a Brown College junior and backpaper editor.

Faust is a Brown College junior and studied abroad in Bolivia last semester. Colombia in reducing coca, and sub-

and have its new leaders by April. These

Patrick McAnaney is a Brown College junior and studied abroad in Bolivia last semester.

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With the spring semester begin-

IN THE MOVIE

FORUM

try to better it, we have no right to complain about its flows.

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By reviewing the previous semester

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Students must use these last few, precious weeks to act on issues that matter to them before they get caught up in pleasurable exploits.

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New year an excellent time for lastpush improvements

Forums at forced removal of its

enemies, in the international sphere.

Bolivia is our chance to rectify this egregious mistake by the Bush administration as soon as he sets foot in the Oval Office. The APTDEA can be reinstated at any time with relatively little effort, should that be our wish. The benefits are obvious: It would be a sign of good will to South America, reduce poverty in the region and maintain a viable employment alternative to cultivating coca. The question is whether the incoming administration has any intention of allowing the APTDEA to continue its work in its relations with Bolivia. Obama has indicated he wishes to redesign about restoring our moral standing in the world and making allies, not enemies, in the international sphere. His election instantly rekindled flag-waving rhetoric in support of its self-appointed as reasonable as the forces in the Bolivian government will ever get. We were fortunate enough to witness in the public forum that was set up to consider it or not to disimpose them.

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WITH THE SPRING SEMESTER BEGINNING, THE RETURN OF THE WEATHER THE IRRELevANT RETURN TO STUDYING AND DESIGN, AND AN EARLY PURSUIT OF CHEAP TEXTBOOKS. BUT UNDERMIND THIS SIMPLE AND ROUTINE FACADE WITH ITS HYPOCRITIC MANIFESTATION AND REPETITIVE BUT VERY RELEVANT INTEREST IN LAST SUMMER, ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS TO RESEARCH IN THE SPRING SEMESTER IS THE ISSUE OFצה נקודה עתית ניסיון לא saràbiginte in rice field and punished a motley crew of

field and punished a motley crew of

rural communities, and although some students may have been involved or leave during the fall semester, most of the student body present in the spring have experienced the events and controversies that marked the fall term, such as Hurricane Ike and changes made concerning student finances and organizations like the Student Administration Council. These experiences and our reactions to them unite us as a student body, and it is only as a large body of students that we can bring change to campus.

By reviewing the previous semester in an objective manner, we can see not only where we’ve fought too hard, but also where and when we haven’t fought hard enough.

“Students must use these last few, precious weeks to act on issues that matter to them before they get caught up in pleasurable exploits.”

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The mark of a new year as a time of change and revitalization is not a novel concept by any means, and it’s a particularly opportune time to affect change on our campus. Students must take time to reflect on the events from the past semester and to act on issues that matter to them before they get caught up in pleasurable exploits and wasting the remainder of their energy griping about their concerns. Speak at an A&M meeting or college council, or pamphlet the tables at the residential colleges, write a letter or column for the Thresher, but by all means, set some time aside to improve student life and leave a lasting contribution while you still have your voice and some time left. We make it of, and if we want our oppor-

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OBIOCHAR
FROM PAGE 1

and, later, in a Houston Chronicle article. He contacted Hockaday and expressed interest in submitting a proposal advocating Biochar. Caves met with experts on Biochars, including Hockaday, Masiello, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Chair Kyriacos Zygourakis and Director of Sustainability Richard Johnson, to determine what ideas to include in the proposal.

Caves remarked that the efficient process of pyrolyzing material under low or no oxygen conditions and in extreme heat of 900 to 1000 degrees Celsius is not new — early Native American groups used the process for agronomic reasons. The team’s BioChar proposal could assist Houston not only with debris, but also the city’s annual 50,000 metric tons of “green waste,” or biodegradable organic material such as leaves and branches.

Furthermore, if the administration of President-elect Barack Obama institu-
tes a carbon cap-and-trade system, the carbon sequestered from the debris could be sold for $10-$25 per ton, Caves said. This would bring in new revenue for the city while cutting carbon emissions annually by the equivalent of 50,000 cars, Caves said. He proposed the BioChar from the Ike debris would eliminate emissions equivalent to removing 250,000 cars for one year.

As the first place winners, the team received $10,000 presented at City Hall on Dec. 10 by Mayor Bill White. With the prize money, the team will continue research on Biochar and are also looking to build a Biochar reactor at Rice for future experimentation on campus, a project Hockaday would oversee.

Rice alumna fan Bagdstale (Hunan) won third place and a $5,000 prize for his proposal to turn the debris into mulch for a series of urban farms that would encourage urban agriculture and produce food for the community.

Our Student Dies

BY CINDY DENG
THESERexE PAPER, Dec. 20

Graduate student Han Li, 31, died on Tuesday night after falling unconscious after using a stationary bike at the Recreation Center. Li came to Rice in 2016 from China to work on his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering.

Rice Hall on Dec. 31/2.

Rice alumnus Ian Ragsdale (Han-

University Police Department for the period Dec. 3-31.

Academic Buildings

Mech Lab
Dec. 6
Criminal mischief

Academic Quad
Dec. 6
Alcohol violations

Big Lab
Dec. 7
Criminal mischief

Baker Hall
Dec. 16
Theft

Ryon Lab
Dec. 16
Theft

A. P. Brown Hall
Dec. 18
Theft

A. P. Brown Hall
Dec. 20
Theft

G. B. Brown Hall
Dec. 31
Theft

Mechanical Engineering
Jan. 5
Theft

OTHER BUILDINGS

South Service
Dec. 5
Theft

Allen Center
Dec. 18
Credit card abuse

Audrey Court
Dec. 30
Failure to identify

Tuder Fieldhouse
May 3
Drug/narcotics violations

PARKING LOTS

West Lot
Dec. 11
Criminal mischief

West Lot
Dec. 29
Driving while license is suspended

West Lot
Jan. 2
Assault, avading detention

Greenbriar Lot
Jan. 5
Theft

OTHER LOCATIONS

Off Campus
Dec. 12
Driving while intoxicated

Off Campus
Dec. 13
Driving while intoxicated

Entrance 2D
Dec. 23
Theft

Off Campus
Jan. 3
Driving without a license

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AD: LISB1008!
Pickens lays out energy plan

BY JOSH RUTENBERG

The Texan first unveiled his plan in July and has spent $8.8 million so far on national advertising to share his opinions on current and future United States energy policies.

Part of Pickens' plan calls for a transition from foreign oil to domestic resources—a "Bridge to the Future" consisting of resources such as wind and natural gas that could provide a larger portion of American energy over the next few decades.

In his commercial, Pickens said the continued reliance of the United States on foreign oil will culminate in a "thrust to the economy, the environment and national security. By investing in domestic alternative energies like wind power, Pickens said natural gas, which is currently used for electric power generation, will be freed up to serve other energy sectors such as heating and manufacturing as well.

"I'm gonna put up my money and say what is my plan," Pickens said. "I'm a lone ranger."

At the meeting, one of more than 20 he has led so far throughout the country, Pickens highlighted his own initiative, called the Pickens Plan. The Texan first unveiled his plan in July and has spent $8.8 million so far on national advertising to share his opinions on current and future United States energy policies.

"If we go 10 years forward with no plan, we'll be importing more than 70 percent of our oil," Pickens said. "You have got to get an energy plan for this country, and today, we have no plan."

Pickens acknowledges his plan will only be a stopgap, allowing the United States to develop and invest in other alternative fuel technologies, such as nuclear and solar power, in order to provide sustainable energy options.

"The problem is your problem," Pickens said. "I'll make it to the finish line, but it's you and the generation to come that will have to figure this out."

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Immediate placement.

To schedule an interview call
713-348-3287 or email seanb@rice.edu

ktru informational meeting

(411 ktru, station tours, pie)

Wednesday January 14th

10 pm kelley lounge, RMC

Applications due Friday January 23rd

details www.ktru.org
or email nls3884@rice.edu

don't forget to sign up for an interview!
James Tour wins Feynman Prize for nanocar work

BY MARGUEX CLEMMONS
 FREEMEET EDITORIAL STAFF

Molecular-sized cars can move with back-and-forth motion, much like a small car moving back and forth on a main street. This type of motion is crucial for further development of nanotechnology, which Tour has been awarded the 2008 Feynman Prize for his synthesis of the nanocar. The award was named after the late physicist Richard P. Feynman, who stressed that an atom-level understanding of biology and chemistry would be crucial for further developments in the field.

Tour was one of four nominees worldwide and is Rice's first recipient of the award since the prize's inception in 1995. "I wish I could say that I was absolutely overwhelmed," Tour said. "But the people who really do this are the students who work in the lab. They have the ideas, and we make it work. But, I am thankful." The nanocar, which Tour says has gone through many models, is intended to demonstrate an understanding of motion and eventually to serve as a transportation device for building at the nano level. "We build from the top down," Tour said. "The vision (of nanotechnology) is can we build from the bottom up? Like nature does! Once we understand motion, then we want to understand transport, and then assembly, so that in 100 years we can build buildings, not with sticks and bricks and mortar like we've been doing, but with these nanocars. This is not the ultimate stage." Tour came to Rice from the University of South Carolina in 1999 after he met Rice chemistry professor and Nobel laureate Richard Smalley, who would discover the buckyballs used as nanocar wheels, at a Foresight Institute conference. At the time, Rice had the world's first building devoted to nanotechnology and was a leader in the first contributions to the new field, Tour said. Tour said that even with a nanotechnology program as strong as Rice's, part of the challenge in developing the new science is convincing established scientists that nanotechnology's vision is a feasible one and obtaining necessary resources. "It took us years to make the nanocars," Tour said. "We bootlegged off of other projects until we had the funding." Tour currently serves as the director of the Nanotechnology Laboratory that he published over 150 research works, and holds over 70 patents. "Nanotechnology is fun in that so much of what you do you can publish, because it's all so new and can apply to almost anything," Tour said. "I love to come to work. I love to come to my office. I love to talk to my students. The biggest problem I have is that my mouth can't keep up fast enough, and there are all these things I have to leave unsaid."
Electric Arguments
eclectic but electrifying

BY BRIAN REINHART
THRESHER STAFF

Sometimes, Paul McCartney just wants to be himself, and when he does, he uses a pen name. "The Fireman" was his pseudonym of choice a decade ago when he recorded the cover of several electronic albums, and now it is back for another effort, Electric Arguments.

With this new LP, The Fireman, a duo consisting of McCartney and record producer Youth, branches out into a wide mix of different styles and sounds, and Electric Arguments thrills listeners with the joy of discovery. Not every song on the album reaches the same height, but this project is full of innovation and variety, and the results sound better and better with each new listen.

The premise behind Electric Arguments is startling: McCartney wrote and recorded a song every day for thirteen days. In the morning he would write down the lyrics, and by the afternoon he played all the instruments — electric and acoustic.

There are some truly great songs on this album. "Two Magpies" is simple in its lyrics, yet it has a rare folk music quality. "Furnace Fire" is a beautiful electronic pop song. "The Guy Who Got Away" is a beautiful electronica/rock song. "Highway" is a great dance track.

The fire and passion that McCartney has put into this album is evident in every track. He has created a unique and infinitely replayable movie-like experience. It controls the placement and frequency of zombies and pickups, determines which musical cues to play at certain points and even monitors how well players move through the level and adjusts the difficulty accordingly to ratchet up the tension. Amazingly, all of this is done on the fly and behind the scenes. A level that was easy the first gameplay may hit players with a Tank or zombie horde straight out of the safe room on the second.

The developers took several cues from Hollywood to emulate the experience of actually being in a zombie flick, including the use of film grain, vignette and even credits at the end of each campaign listing everyone's stats and deducing the effectiveness.

The coolest thing that Left 4 Dead brings to the table is the revolutionary "AI Director," created specifically for the game, which guarantees a unique and infinitely

By Jackie Ammons

Bedtime Stories

Starring Adam Sandler

Sandy: A simple story of a man being at the wrong place at the wrong time.

But the main problem of Bedtime Stories is that it goes in too many directions in order to attract wide audiences. In doing so, the film spreads itself thin and satisfies no target audience. For example, the film attempts to be both action-packed and feel so as to capture the short attention spans of children while still teaching them a useful life lesson.

While this idea may seem like a wholesome and effective plan, it just leaves the audience confused, as in minute one they are watching a galactic fight scene, and in the next minute they are watching the children discussing how sad they are that their father left them. This transition from silly to serious is abrupt and perplexing.

Sandler compounds the basic problem of Bedtime Stories by presenting a character who tries to be more complex than he really is. Sandy is known for playing the comedic character with a good heart, but the soft side of his

BY JOE DWYER
THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

Forget everything you know about co-op shooters; Valve has raised the first-person shooter bar yet again with the release of Left 4 Dead, one of 2008's best multiplayer titles.

The game's story is somewhat skimpay on the details, but the main thing to know is that a zombie apocalypse is going on outside, and it's up to the four "Survivors" to blast their way through wave after wave of undead and make it out of one safe room to the next. To keep things interesting, players also have to deal with five different "Special Infected" zombies, who have mutated abilities beyond that of a normal zombie grunt: There's the Hunter, who can pounce on survivors from afar; the Smoker, who can pull survivors away from the group with his long tongue; the Boomer, whose bile attracts the group with his long tongue; and the Juggernaut, who can fly and behind the scenes. A level and adjusts the difficulty accordingly to ratchet up the tension. Amazingly, all of this is done on the fly and behind the scenes. A level that was easy the first gameplay may hit players with a Tank or zombie horde straight out of the safe room on the second.

The developers took several cues from Hollywood to emulate the experience of actually being in a zombie flick, including the use of film grain, vignette and even credits at the end of each campaign listing everyone's stats and deducing the effectiveness.

The coolest thing that Left 4 Dead brings to the table is the revolutionary "AI Director," created specifically for the game, which guarantees a unique and infinitely replayable movie-like experience. It controls the placement and frequency of zombies and pickups, determines which musical cues to play at certain points and even monitors how well players move through the level and adjusts the difficulty accordingly to ratchet up the tension. Amazingly, all of this is done on the fly and behind the scenes. A level that was easy the first gameplay may hit players with a Tank or zombie horde straight out of the safe room on the second.

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The Owls' victory gave them a key win in their season, only the second time Rice had won a bowl game.

Chase Clement and senior wide receiver Ayinde Dwelley showcased their skills in the end zone and were a key part of the offensive success.

The Owls' victory was a significant moment in the university's athletic history, as it was the team's first post-season win since 1949.

The Owls' victory also marked a significant milestone in their program, as it was the 10th win in 12 games for the season.

The Owls were also proud of their performances in the Texas Bowl, as they finished the season with a 6-3 record.

**A CLOSER LOOK: Statistics for the '08 season**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Opponents</th>
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<tr>
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**Senior quarterback Chase Clement steps into the end zone for a touchdown during Rice's win in the Texas Bowl Dec. 6, at Reliant Stadium. Clement scored his 29th career touchdown, tying him with ex-USC quarterback and current Arizona Cardinal Matt Leinart for ninth all-time.**

Senior quarterback Chase Clement steps into the end zone for a touchdown during Rice's win in the Texas Bowl Dec. 6, at Reliant Stadium. Clement scored his 29th career touchdown, tying him with ex-USC quarterback and current Arizona Cardinal Matt Leinart for ninth all-time.
Rice 38, WMU 14

Rice bowl win both historic and reflective of senior accomplishments

Friday, January 9, 2009

The Rice Thresher

Casey Michel

For a team that's overcome so much, Rice dominated in every sense of the word. With a special-case scenario, an energized fan base and a coach who's staying put, Rice football has come to a bittersweet aid. As the 2008 campaign dawned, Rice was shakier than my great aunt Ida. It's not as if you could blame the fans, the team and their talents into one.

In their minds, they weren't enough, Hurricane Ike made sure to wash out a few days of much-needed rest for a team just returning from a four-and-out departure may not hurt as much than when those final Texas Bowl seconds ticked into oblivion. Everyone seemed to declare us more than others, and outside of junior thumb. Clement, the Owls looked like Calista the Scariest tandem since Bonnie and Clyde, while junior Todd Graham, the director of our running back James teammates. Dillard and Casey were spreading more records than Godzilla in their absence. And junior running back C.J. Ugokwe, whose broad shoulders carried a ground game all year, had such a culture of ineptitude that moving beyond counting victories on our own wavelength, at a different speed, combining for their NCAA All American dreams, is there anything these two can't do?

Actually, expand that thought - is there anything this team can't do?

Three years ago, Rice football was looking for some footing. No one's had it this hard since Ike. Now back to the question of Clement and Dillard. After the Texas Bowl triumph, complete with Clement's ten-gallon MVP trophy, these two can't come back for one more game will survive until Safin McGuffie and where they land in the NFL is up to them. Meanwhile, the defense was the only stopgap to our Offense of defense - being the only stopgap to our Offense, while spectacular due to the late in the fourth quarter, West Michigan required seven red-zone plays and a questionable penalty just before a fumble recovery that clinched the victory.

And the Owls slipped on their glass cleats, kicking sand in the Broncos' eyes of redundancy. Time and again, Rice did not want to count their contributions to the Texas Bowl. It seemed everything was against us. Our defense - 58 yards, and an incredible punt returner - continued to shine, winning a Virgin Music store.

It seemed everywhere was against us. When those final Texas Bowl seconds ticked into oblivion, it was realized as the peppers and Clement at the family funeral.

But for you, me and you, every bowl ESPN analysts saw this season, the Owls didn't have their greatest day. It seemed everywhere was against us. And junior running back C.J. Ugokwe, whose broad shoulders carried a ground game all year, had such a culture of ineptitude that moving beyond counting victories on our own wavelength, at a different speed, combining for their NCAA All American dreams, is there anything these two can't do?

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Fincher’s Curious Case hits right the right notes

BY FAHEEM AHMED
THREASSTAFF

Most people don’t realize that the success of a film depends heavily on when it is released. The fact that action-packed dramas dominate the box office in the late spring and summer is no coincidence. The major audiences for that genre are kids and teenagers who have just gotten out of school. Thrillers and horror movies do well in October (probably thanks to Hallowe’en), romantic comedies, and family movies are heavy in November (Thanksgiving) and Oscar-contending dramas flood in during December.

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button is an exception to the movie-diet calendar rule. It’s hard to imagine this film being released at any point in the year other than at the start of the holidays. The movie’s magical aura fits quite nicely with the spirit of the holiday season.

The film chronicles the extraordinary life of Benjamin Button (Brad Pitt as Tidwell’s Brad Pitt), who was born as an old man and becomes younger as he grows up. His story is told in a di- ary read by Julia Ormond (Sabrina) at the request of his dying mother. Cate Blanchett (Ike) and Owen Wilson (Marley & Me) look quite nicely with the spirit of the holiday season.

“Tidwell’s Brad Pitt. He is extremely believable and infuriates his frail body with an appropriate wistful spirit. One more critic, however, is that when his appearance becomes younger, his personality regresses as well. One would think that he would have the mind and character of an old man since that is the way he appeared to be in his twenties; if he were acting like an infant in the body of an old man, then Tidwell’s characterization also should have occurred.

Direction and cinematography set The Curious Case of Benjamin Button apart. Director David Fincher (Sever, Fight Club) has a knack for molded landscapes and seems to fit the spirit of a film perfectly. The CFD is especially breathtaking. Movie tech-nology is progressing at leaps and bounds, and though making Pitt and Blanchett look like teenagers and crippled senior citizens is no easy task, it appears seamless.

This movie will most likely garner a Best Picture nomination, but it does not deserve an Oscar.

Marley & Me pleases entire family with lovable characters and plot

BY JACKIE AMMONS

Released on Christmas Day, the new movie Marley & Me could not be a better Christmas gift. Presenting an endearing, down-to-earth story filled with adorable Labrador puppies, Marley & Me will leave children and adults alike wishing they had received a puppy under their Christmas trees.

Based on the 2002 nonfiction book Marley & Me: Life and Love with the World’s Worst Dog, the film follows the lives of real-life columnist John Grogan (Drobi Taylor’s Owen Wilson) and his wife Jenny (The Big Lebowski’s Jerri-fant Aniston) through their experiences with their dog Marley. Marley & Me tells part of John’s life story, including John buying Marley as a puppy, Jenny’s miscarriage, job changes and the births of their three children, by paralleling these events with Marley’s animal behavior, such as Marley digesting Jenny’s new jewelry or tearing up the house.

Marley’s narrative perspective is Marley & Me’s most unique aspect, for while John is writing about Marley, the film shows the everyday events of John and Jenny’s lives as having some relationship to the dog. For example, their children express grief at the same time when they lose Marley in his old age; likewise, Marley runs out with John when his neighbor is in trouble and is too weak to comfort Jenny when she miscarries her baby. Perhaps it is because these events are based on Grogan’s real life that Marley & Me’s simplicity seems believable.

Wilson and Aniston’s chemistry lends credibility to their performances as John and Jenny, a normal couple with normal struggles. The actors imbue their characters with qualities for which they are famous: Wilson’s sly humor from his other comedy films, such as Wedding Crashers, and Aniston’s girl-next-door personality in the television series “Friends.”

Along with its entertaining leading actors, Marley & Me contains numerous cute Labra-dors that are certain to win the audience’s affection. The dogs used in the movie to play Marley’s, characters range from a month old puppy that awkwardly romps through the family’s various locations in the beginning of the film to a middle-aged Labrador that tears up the house in the end. Marley & Me also features puppies, some of which are also featured in the television series “Friends.”

The film is a winner. It’s sweet, and it has puppies in it. The movie is believable because of its basis in real life, allowing the audience to relate to an individual’s relationship with his or her pet.

Marley & Me is a winner. It’s simple, it’s sweet and it has puppies in it. The movie is believable because of its basis in real life, allowing the audience to relate to an individual’s relationship with his or her pet. Marley & Me is a delightful, sincere film that artfully combines both the comedy and the drama of real life. Many viewers may find themselves missing their own dogs.

Jewish Studies Courses at Rice University Spring 2009

Secular Judaism - Ancient and Modern - RELI 208
M-W-F 11:00 - 5:00 pm
Instructors: Greg Kaplan, Matthias Henze

Introduction to Syriac - RELI 313
W-F 2:00 - 3:20
Instructor: Matthias Henze

Intro to Modern Hebrew II - HEBR 102
M-W-F 10:00 - 10:50 am
Instructor: Tikva Baron

America and the Middle East - HIST 436
T 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Instructor: Ussama Makdisi

Seminar in Spinoza - RELI 461/563
W 2-5 pm
Instructors: Gregory Kaplan, Mark Kulstad

A Posen Foundation/Center for Cultural Judaism wants has supported our new course developments.
KTRU pick of the week: Poetry on Record: 98 Poets Read Their Work

BY MIGUEL QUINCH FOR THE THRERVER

Poetry on Record features a diverse collection of poetry on four discs clocking full of readings by the poets themselves. The poetry ranges from incomplete fragments to complete works.

The different poets' presentations range from fast to entrancing, the exceptional tracks of the album have the power to bring the artists' poetry to life and give the listener a detailed portrayal of the poet.

There is significant historic and educational value in this compilation, how often do one come across such a gathering of artists? The album is one of the most comprehensive commercially available collections of poets' readings in their own voices: 92 poems, 32 poets.

The format of the album is almost chronological, beginning with the oldest artists and progressing through each CD to reach the most recent artists around the end of the third disc and throughout the fourth. It also includes a neat booklet with supplementary infor-

tations and essays that complement the audio collection.

The first disc features many dry per-
formances, with a standout being that of Theodore Roethke. It is particularly interesting to hear poets from the late 19th century in their own voices and with their own manners of speech and accents.

The second disc contains even bet-
ter recordings and continues to draw the listener into the album by letting the emotion of the poetry seep through, especially with Haydn's Cantata reading of "The Lord."

As with the first CD, having the recorded readings of the poets adds a new layer of potential meaning for readers and listeners to explore.

The final two discs of the album showcase a broad variety of poets, from the synthetic journey of Adri-

 enamel Rich's "Flying into the West," the charged poems of Amiri Baraka and Charles Simic's mastery of words to the more musically poetic forms on the fourth album, featuring names like Anne Waldman and Louis Felipe Her-
ners. Though the musically inclined pieces border on party music at times, they do reflect one contemporary take on the written work.

The historic value of having so many great artists recite their work in such a format is itself reason enough to add this piece to KTRU's Spoken Word Show stacks. Poetry on Record serves as a great way to get acquainted with the world of poetry.

Poetry on Record: 98 Poets Read Their Work

Artists: Various
Label: Shout Factory
Release: April 18, 2006

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2009

Q ZOMBIES FROM PAGE 7

be beat in a matter of hours, map
exploits mesmerizing, but
Van Helsing's monster shows that additional
downloadable content and patches
are on the way. The game also has
a list of 50 achievements on both
360 and PC for completionists.

Q ELECTRIC FROM PAGE 7

emotional climax and its great-
est triumph comes at the halfway
point, and is followed by longer
and longer tunes which also gradu-

ally become diller and diller. Part
of the problem is that the album
doesn't take as much interest in varying
its approach in the second half, so that
the music tends to run together. An-
other issue is that the album's con-
ection to the rest of the world
is so weak that it might as well be
from a different planet. The band
is talented, but the overall effect
is not as impressive as one might
have hoped for.

But this whole album is an ex-
periment - McCartney's change
in style to play whatever he wants
without restrictions - and the first half of
Electric Arguments has so many un-
forgettable songs that the CD's in-
fluence comes mostly hard to

John E. Parish Fellowship

Diabetes Travel

Wiess College announces competition for the 2009 John E. Parish Fellowship. The winner of the Parish Fellowship will receive support of approximately 2 weeks during the Summer of 2009. The purpose of the fellowship is to enhance the undergraduate education of the Fellow by broadening the range of experience through individual travel. All full-time

undergraduates at Rice are eligible. For further information, call the Wiess College coordinator (713-348-5743), or see the web page at www.ruf.rice.edu/-parish.

Deadline for application is Friday, February 13, 2009.

Dunlevie Writing Fellowships - Summer 2009

The School of Humanities is accepting applications for the Dunlevie Summer Writing Fellowships for Summer 2009. Each fellowship is worth $1,500 and will enable students to pursue in depth a topic of their choice from one of the HUMA or Freshman Seminars courses listed below and to produce, over the summer, a significant written research paper under the mentorship of the course professor. Several outstanding papers may also be featured on the School of Humanities web page.

Rice students who currently have the status of freshman, sophomore, or junior and are enrolled during Spring 2009 in a section of HUMA 102, 104, or a Humanities Freshman Seminar (FSEM) are eligible. Full semester students have been selected and notified.

Applications:

The fellowship are competitive by application. Students must apply to their course instructor, who may nominate up to two students from each class. The application consists of a 200-300 word description of

the topic and proposed research. The application must include the title of the project; the applicant's name, email address, and graduating class; the name of the nominating professor; and the name and catalogue number of the applicant's HUMA or FSEM class. The instructor may add, at his or her discretion, a recommendation.

Instructions for applicants are:

Applications

For students enrolled in Spring 2009 classes:

Applications from instructors due: 5 PM on April 24, 2009

Examples of previous Fellowship Projects:

"Comparing Legislative Political Authority in Plato, Machiavel, and Kant";

"How French Enlightenment Ideas Fostered the Bulgarian National Movement";

"Erotic Religion in the Confession of St. Augustine";

"Transculturalism through Timeless Tales: A Look at the Cultural Changes in the Madrile, Bahar and Tinto Series;";

"Anti Fascism in DEFA Cinema: From Cathartic Tool to State Tool";

Gumballs rain on Adam Sandler as he reprises his tipical clueless but warmhearted role, this time in a family setting, in Bedtime Stories.

Bedtime Stories

John E. Parish Fellowship for Summer Travel

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Examples of previous Fellowship Projects:

"Comparing Legislative Political Authority in Plato, Machiavel, and Kant";

"How French Enlightenment Ideas Fostered the Bulgarian National Movement";

"Erotic Religion in the Confession of St. Augustine";

"Transculturalism through Timeless Tales: A Look at the Cultural Changes in the Madrile, Bahar and Tinto Series;";

"Anti Fascism in DEFA Cinema: From Cathartic Tool to State Tool";

HURRY UP AND LINE UP TODAY!
Men's basketball plagued by inconsistency

Owls push highly-ranked Oklahoma and Texas A&M to the brink but struggle against weaker Harvard and Richmond

by Yan Digiov

One step forward and two steps back is an approach many basketball coaches would love to see in this team's quest for respect in the ACC. The Owls are now 6-4, 235 lbs., Casey ran roughshod over opponents as well as All-American honors from Riceke.com and Special洗涤剂.com. For a team already bracing for the loss of receiver Jarrett Dillard and quarterback Chase Clement, the loss of Casey is a blow of equal, if not greater, magnitude. But if he is dismissed, head coach Dave Bailiff is not letting on.

"Whatever that decision was going to be, we were going to support it," said Bailiff. "He is the greatest player I've ever been around, because of what he can do at so many positions offensively. But if he decided not to play for us last year defensively, then to go pick up a jewel and some points for the track team last spring. He broke that file.

"I don't have any preference [where Piratin drafted]," he said. "I don't wish to give up this opportunity. It's every kid's dream to play in the NFL, but take a light load here at Rice just so he can go back and finish his degree before the April 25 draft, including the NFL Combine and Pro Day, where Casey will once again show off his talents at Rice Stadium.

"If selected, Casey can be expected to find himself at a single position, from safety to quarterback, that is the true start of the position," he said. "I don't wish to give up this opportunity. It's every kid's dream to play in the NFL, but take a light load here at Rice just so he can go back and finish his degree."
The Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) provides dynamic programs for students in areas of research, service, and leadership. Read below for important news on updates for exciting opportunities!

### Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) Fellowship Program

The CCE Fellowship Program gives students a $4,000 stipend to conduct independent research or design projects with a faculty member and a Houston-based community partner in the summer. Applications are due on January 30, 2009. Contact Stephanie Post at post@rice.edu or 713-348-2223 for more information.

### Community Service Grant

The Community Involvement Center is seeking applications for the Community Service Grant. The purpose of the grant is to help community service organizations establish and further develop their programs and to help individuals initiate community service projects. To learn more or apply, visit www.rice.edu/service. Applications are due no later than Monday, January 12th at 5:00PM.

### CCE International Opportunities Info Session

The CCE International Opportunities Information Session will be held in HUM 119 on Tuesday, January 13 from 7 to 8 pm. Come to learn more about the Community Involvement Center's Loewenstein Fellowship and the International Service Project (ISP), and Leadership Rice's Summer Mentorship Experience (SME).

### Leadership Rice Summer Mentorship Experience

The Summer Mentorship Experience is a competitive internship program through which undergraduates from all disciplines are paired with mentors in public, private, or nonprofit organizations. Placements include dynamic and demanding summer work experiences in a variety of industries, and are concentrated in Houston, New York City, Washington, D.C., Berlin, and Pune, India. Stipends range from $4,000-$6,000, depending on the cost of living. Applications can be accessed at leadership.rice.edu and are due on January 23rd.

Information session: Monday, January 12th at 4:00 pm in Farnsworth Pavilion.
For more information contact Judy Le at ext. 4750 or judyle@rice.edu.

### Center for Civic Research & Design (CCRD) Course Announcement

Students are strongly encouraged to register for an exciting CCRD course offered this semester. “Hurricane Risk Assessment and Design of Evacuation Policies for Houston” (CEVE 495/COMP 495/POLI 481) directly connects students with the Houston community. Contact Robert Stein at stein@rice.edu or visit http://owlspace-ccm.rice.edu for more information.

If you have any questions about any opportunity or event in the CCE, please visit our website at http://cce.rice.edu or contact us at cce@rice.edu or 713-348-2223.
Owls struggle to gain momentum on road trip

"We don't want to be low by 20 points every night," senior guard Mauesso Fulton said. "We knew we had to make a change. We always talk about patience, but today was one of the days we actually made the change." Fulton had an explosive 24 points against GW. Freshman point guard D'Franzi Smart led the team with 20, and junior Tara Watts also hit double-digits with 12.

After dominating both sides of the court for most of the game, the Owls were forced to prove how badly they wanted a win when the Co-

men pulled within four points in the second half, finishing, which she didn't have been doing." After getting the ball back, sophomore Morgan Ryan made up one with a three-pointer to push the Owls back in front. Marshall, again in gain back her confidence prior to the game, having scored only no points in three games prior to her game.

"We need her to play a little bit better," Williams said. "She did get on the boards and hit a big three. I am glad to see her take a shot when she sometimes shies away from them."

Ryan was not the only one piling up shots in previous games and also not the only one just missing them. On Monday, the Owls built up a 44-28 lead against the Commodores. In the first half, Rice shot 53 percent from the field, 34 more important. The Owls brought in a big lead in the first half, Smart brought in some of the best ball they played all season.

"That blowout really changed our mentality and how we approach games," Smart said. "It was so good and we all kept it going in the second half." The starting five contributed for one total and six assists, Smart had two, and the five on the floor had 14 assists and six turnovers.

"We have been playing really well in practice," Fulton said. "It is just about being able to play the right way. I feel like we just need one game to get it rolling. We have all the pieces, but we need people to just step up.

"You expect a little inconsistency out of fresh-

men, " Williams said. "The frustrating thing is that more experienced players have been on a rollercoaster."

The numbers of all factors coming together like they did on Monday are as high as the chances of any team being in the NCAA tournament. The Owls have followed strong performances with inconsistency, but this is an extreme. He has not heard the calls to resume play.

"The offensive flow has been linked, inextri-
cably, to the performance of the team's young candids, to the match of the team's young

But it was embarrassing to our coaching staff and to the players. The starting five contributed for one total and six assists, Smart had two, and the five on the floor had 14 assists and six turnovers. Marvelous.

"We were being physical with a very physical team," Grant said. "Who could have predicted D'Franzi to play like she is playing?" Williams asked. "We knew she was good, but we didn't think she could do what she did against GW."

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This is the biggest thing since sliced bread
Celine Dion is coming to Houston! If you're lucky, maybe you can still snag tickets to her performance tonight at the Toyota Center. For more info, check out www.toyotacenter.com. Or just go.

Who is this Warren chick?
The Alley Theatre presents Mrs. Warren's Profession, a play by George Bernard Shaw. He is funny. The show opens tonight and runs through Feb. 7. The show is recommended for "general audiences," which means you probably fit into. More info is available on the web at www.alleytheatre.com.

SUNDAY
Carve it up.
In one of the weirdest publicity moves ever, Discovery Green has announced "Houston's First Annual Magnificent Seven All Out Ice Sculpting," which will be held today at Discovery Green (a park downtown). Seven awesome ice sculptors will sculpt ice starting at 10 a.m. (One of them is named "Beverent But-"er," if that gives you an idea of how badass these guys are...)

MATT YOURN!
Student Association meetings are always Mondays at 10 a.m. in Fanninworth Parlor (by the BMC's Info Desk). You should go.

MONDAY
Send me a calendar entry!
Make my life easy and give me something to put in here! Better yet, you can have this job. All you have to do is send an e-mail to symphony@rice.edu and you can start making fun of campus groups you don't like—or just omit them! All it takes is a few short keystrokes and you can make money for writing pithy statements like this one. And you'll be immortalized in the annals of Rice history! Act now!

THURSDAY
It's a big day, boys and girls, so I hope you ate your Wheaties...
Today is the last day to do lots of things:
- Last day to add a course without a fee
- Last day to add a course without instructor permission
- Last day to adjust variable instructor (by to-day, you'll get fined.

FRIDAY
Pay up
Tomorrow is the day listed for Late Registration fees. This is obvious, since you can't add a class online after today and obviously you won't be getting any signatures on a Saturday. So, basically, if you haven't signed up for at least one course by today, you'll get fined.

FRIDAY
SUNDAY

Did you realize that so little happens on this campus that I can't find enough events to fill seven days?
It's true. Rice is tragically sufficient in the calendar department. Or clubs just don't want people to actually show up to their events. That would explain why they don't publicize...

CALL AND YOU COULD SAVE.
Class dismissed.

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The Department of History would like to congratulate the following faculty for their accomplishments in 2008:

Tani Barlow, co-ed., The Modern Girl Around the World (Duke UP)
Edward Cox, who received a George R. Brown Award for Superior Teaching.
Michael Maas, who received a National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship.
The following members who published books:
Alex Byrd, Captives and Voyagers: Black Migrants Across the Eighteenth-century British Atlantic World (LSU Press)
Ussama Makhdisi, Artillery of Heaven: American Missionaries and the Failed Conversion of the Middle East (Cornell Univ. Press). This book has received the 2008 Albert Hourani Book Award from the Middle East Studies Association.
Paula Sanders, Creating Medieval Cairo: Empire, Religion, and Architectural Preservation in Nineteenth-Century Egypt (AUC Press)
Richard Smith, Fathoming the Cosmos and Ordering the World: The Yijing (I Ching or Book of Changes) and Its Evolution in China (University Press of Virginia)
Richard Smith, co-ed., Different Worlds of Discourse: Transformations of Gender and Genre in Late Qing and Early Republican China (Brill Academic Publishers)
Kerry Ward, Networks of Empire: Forced Migration and the Dutch East India Company (Cambridge Univ. Press)
Martin Wiener, An Empire on Trial: Race, Murder, and Justice under British Rule, 1870-1935 (Cambridge Univ. Press)
The History Department would also like to welcome its new members who will begin teaching at Rice University this week:
Tani Barlow, Professor of History and Asian Studies
Stephanie Camp, Associate Professor of History
HELP WANTED

EVENINGS/WEEKENDS (IF AVAILABLE) at Rice has other Rice Kids in calling alumni to tell them about the Annual Fund. $8/hr plus bo-

nuses, incentives. Flexible evening shifts Sunday-Thursday. Contact: 713-348-3223, helpfund@rice.edu

THE WEEKLY FAMILY YMFCA is looking for Swim Instructors and CERTIFIED Lifeguards and to work morning, al-
ternoon, evenings and/or weekends. Lifeguard Candidates must have CURRENT certifications in Lifeguard-
ing (YMCA or Red Cross), CPR - R, and First Aid. Lifeguard classes held April 19th-26th and May 10th-17th. Train-
ing will be provided for Swim Instructors. Contact Holly Jenkins at hollyj@ymcahouston.org.

EXTRA MONEY IN

Your own time. Rice business, communications, or drama major preferred to coach presenta-
tion. $15/hr. Flexible hours. Call 713-555-7278.

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at City Plaza Condominiums 1330 Old Spanish Trail Beautiful Condo-

minium, New Washer & Dryer Finished Painted Two Bedrooms (1 LRK) Study
two Bath. hardwood Floor Contact: Surya Yadav at 806-577-5359.

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or two middle school students. Eng-
lis,h, Math, and Science. Located at 4020 Swarthmore. 2 evenings each

week (7-9 PM). Fees negotiable. Contact Michael 713-665-0358 (H) 832-325-6504 (W). Please send your

resume to michael.a.altman@uth.tmc.edu.

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torical building. Minutes from Rice campus. Completely restored to its old glory with all new appliances, wooden floors, central a/c, dishwa-

ser, washer/dryer, city views, carport $650/month, calderaysm@hotmail.com

GREAT PART-TIME POSITION

for student! 6-9 hours weekly. Duties: Childcare/ homework help needed for a 9 year old boy after school Monday, Tuesday, and every other Friday from 3 to 6 pm. Must have reliable transportation and a cheerful driving record as he will need to be picked up from West Uni-

versity Elementary. Male or Female, references please. Contact: Helen M. Schilling, MD, day: 281-586-0542 or home: 713-661-3022. Email: helen-

schilling@hotmail.com.


PURE WIGS AND EXTENSIONS need part-time help Mon through Sat. Con-

venience available. No experience needed. Contact John at 713-549-3622. Free board for right person. Garage app., in Rice area in exchange for child-
care, children ages 3, 3, and 4. Must be mature and love kids, will work w/ school schedule. 713-549-8770 for in-
terview, Rebecca.

STADIUM AREA 2/1 condo for rent. Four miles from rice, with washer/ dryer, pool, tennis court, covered parking $450/month. Please contact Be-

nie at 812-555-0142, ben.bob@gmail.com.

BARFANCING 3 CHILDREN age 6 to 14 for after school activities from 3pm to 6pm. Please call 281-520-0617

at reminders can be used to remind a student of an upcoming event or assignment. And it can also be used to remind a teacher of an upcoming deadline or task. Additionally, the planner can be used to help students keep track of their grades and assignments. It can also be used to help teachers keep track of their students' progress and attendance. Finally, the planner can be used to help students and teachers create study schedules and manage their time effectively. Overall, the planner is a valuable tool that can be used to help students and teachers stay organized and on track.